

Research paper Rubric

Name:

Research Question:

Grade	Thesis	Argument Construction	Essay Structure	Research Skills/Source Selection	Written Communication
Exceptional 10-9	Student is able to identify and justify a strong thesis that addresses the research question. The student explains their thesis in detail. Strong elaboration of ideas supported by historical context.	The arguments are complex and well reasoned, with strong supporting evidence. Much valid evidence is provided.	Structure shows a sophisticated understanding the structure and text type. There is a strong introduction and conclusion.	Sources are well-chosen (both content and reputability) and meet the requirements. MLA and in-text citations are accurate.	Language use, structures, spelling and cohesion are accurate and fluent
Superior 8-7	Student is able to identify and justify a reasonable thesis. The student explains their thesis in some detail.	Arguments are clear with good use of supporting evidence.	Structure shows a good understanding the structure and text type. There is a clear introduction and conclusion.	Sources are well-chosen (both content and reputability) and meet the requirements. MLA or in-text citations have a few inaccuracies.	Language use, structures, spelling and cohesion are reasonably accurate and fluent
Satisfactory 6-5	Student is able to identify and justify a reasonable thesis. Some explanation of thesis is provided; however, the reasons provided may not support the thesis well.	Development of the argument is becoming stronger. Some use of supporting evidence. Not all obvious parts of the argument are included.	Writing shows a basic understanding of the structure and text type. Introduction and conclusion are basic.	Sources are, for the most part, well-chosen and meet all or all but one of the requirements. MLA and in-text citations have inaccuracies	Language use, structures and spelling are basically accurate; errors can remain.
Low 4-3	Students is able to identify a thesis but does not give reasons or explanation for their choice.	The developed argument is basis with no real supporting evidence. Some inaccuracies.	Writing shows a limited understanding of the structure and text type. Introduction and conclusion are limited.	Several sources are not well-chosen and several requirements are not met. MLA and in-text citations have many inaccuracies or are not used.	There are a number of language use, structure and spelling errors. Some sections may be incomplete.
Unsatisfactory 2-0	Student does not provide a thesis that answers the research question.	No understanding of the role of evidence in the development of an argument. Arguments provided do not support the thesis.	Writing shows no understanding of the structure or text type. Introduction and/or conclusion is absent.	Requirements are not met in relation to source selection. MLA and in-text citations have many inaccuracies or are not used	There are many language use, structure and spelling errors. Sections are incomplete.